as their supernatural favors; chiefs, holding position largely because of birth; all spent some part of their time in activities not participated in to the same extent or in the same manner by the rest of the group. However, specialization was never so extreme as to exempt these individuals from the ordinary economic pursuits of the group, and still less from the social and religious activities. 885 554

It was known that women sometimes died at menopause. 886

Insanity was said to have been very rare. All those Mrs. Louie could recall were half-breeds. Cecile also cited a few cases: a young Wenatchi girl, and a local girl who was sent to an asylum recently because she "wanted power too much." A case of years ago was that of a woman who was badly frightened at the time of the earthquake (about seventy-five years ago?). She took off all her clothes and ran away. She was found naked, frozen to death in the snow. 158

Some data on suicide was obtained from Johnnie Louie which may be added here. The pattern for suicide seems to be by hanging. No one was ever hung for punishment. Suicide was rare among men, but common enough among girls. For instance, if a girl was angry she might kill herself, or if a wife was beaten on unfounded suspicion of adultery she might hang herself. If a girl got a reputation as loose, her father might whip her; she, feeling hurt, might kill herself. A child who suggests something important to its parents, which the latter refuse, has good cause to kill himself for shame. Thus, sixty years ago a man was sent by the priests to convert his family. His father disagreeing, the son shot himself through the mouth. Cecile Brooks said that suicides were more frequent in early days than at present. Women particularly were given to it on such provocation as a parental scolding, a disagreement over bethrothal, or the like. They would hang themselves with a pack rope. Men also killed themselves, for example, because of jealousy. "They rigged up some sort of arrangement by which they could release an arrow with their toes." 762

DEATH AND BURIAL

As soon at it was known that a death had taken place, relatives and friends came to the house to wail. Those too far away to come gathered to mourn where they were. A night was spent mourning over the body. Relatives, or unrelated old men, prepared the corpse for burial. In each locality there seems to have been one old man who customarily performed this task, assisted by another he might choose. The corpse was washed, dressed in fresh (?) clothes, and bound in a flexed position, with knees to chest, hands and feet crossed. It was never painted, unlike the Nez Percé and Colville. The braids 764

45 Curtis, North American Indian, VII, 76.

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